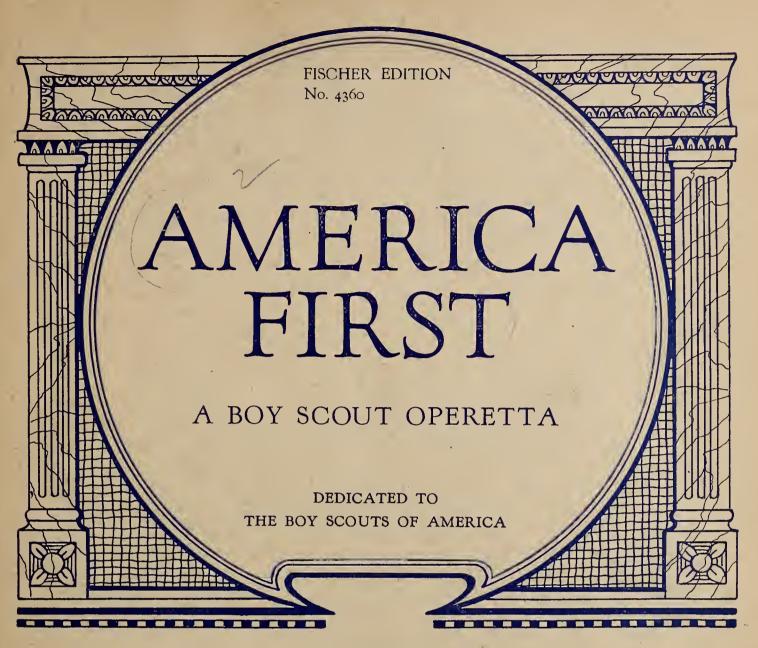




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TEXT BY
FREDERICK H. MARTENS

MUSIC BY

Will C. Macfarlane

.60 NET

J. FISCHER & BROTHER , NEW YORK FOURTH AVENUE AND EIGHTH STREET (ASTOR PLACE)

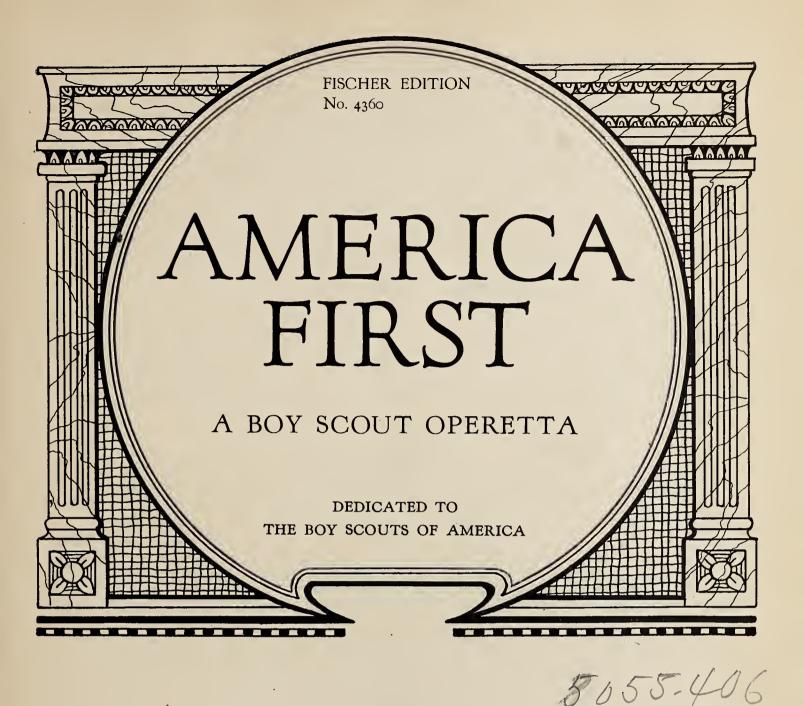
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J. FISCHER & BRO., 7 and 11, Bible House, New York.



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a Circulation

ARGUMENT

This little operetta is intended to point a moral in music, verse and dialogue—the value of the Boy Scouts to their country* and to their fellows. Two gangs of boys in a large town, representing different sections, the North and South End, have met on common ground for a gang fight, when interrupted by the appearance of a detachment of Boy Scouts. Their discipline and common sense prevent a continuation of the rowdy feud and an unfolding of their aims and ends in song, drill and instruction give the gangsters an idea of what they are missing by not belonging to the organization, and wins their eventual enrollment in the Boy Scouts ranks. AMERICA FIRST, and not factional quarrels and jealousies, the value of patriotism, loyalty, kindness, moral courage, physical strength and the joys of woodcraft are made clear by the Boy Scouts to the other fellows and secure the latters' enthusiastic enlistment in the organization.

COSTUMES AND PROPERTIES

Regular khaki uniform (or uniform of uniformed corps to which Scouts belong); khaki hats. Other boys in ordinary street dress. Properties (for Scouts): Staves, red and white flags, small American flags; large company flag (Stars and Stripes); troop flags; stretchers. (If War Dance is used as well as Drill—see No. 10—Clubs, tin-pans and drums would be required). The Soldier, Sailor, Goddess of Liberty and Uncle Sam are attired in the conventional costumes associated with these characters.

APPENDIX

Substitutions suggested for the song: "The Old Colonial Frontiersman" (see p. 29).

CANADA: No change.

ENGLAND: Title, "The Builders of the Empire."

"The Builders of the Empire fought because in their day,
'Twas only fighting that could keep the raging foe at bay.
They fought because they had a cause. And did they meet the test?
They must have, else we'd not be here to prove they fought the best."

Stanza 3, line 3:

"Like Builders of the Empire, if there be a need to fight."

Stanza 4:

"The Builders of the Empire, once the battle done and o'er,
They brought the Empire's peace to those who'd known it not before.
They were the Scouts, they knew the trails and that is why we cry:
We'll fight as Empire Builders fought—when there's a reason why."

AUSTRALIA:

"The Fathers of the Anzac fought whenever in their day
The Black Boy needed bullets ere he'd yield the right of way.
They fought because they had a cause. And did they meet the test?
They must have, else we'd not be here to prove they fought the best."

Stanza 3, line 3:

"The Fathers of the Anzac, if there be a need to fight."

Stanza 4:

"The Fathers of the Anzac, when had passed the battle's stress,
They toiled to bring the arts of peace into the wilderness;
They were the Scouts, they knew the trails and that is why we cry:
We'll fight the way they fought—Australia all our reason why!"

^{*}While especially designed for the use of the Boy Scouts of the United States, to whom it is dedicated, it may also be given in England, Canada and Australia by the substitution of the names of those countries for "America," in the song, "America First" (pp. 13, 23); the substitutions suggested (see Appendix) for the song, "The Old Colonial Frontiersman"; on p. 29, Union Jack, etc., for "Stars and Stripes"; on pages 44, 50 use of British National Anthem, or the National Songs of Canada or Australia (see Appendix) in place of "The Star Spangled Banner," and a few simple substitutions in dialogue; p. 52, same substitution as on pp. 13, 23.

AMERICA FIRST

FREDERICK H. MARTENS

WILL C. MACFARLANE

CHARACTERS

JIM MANLY *	Scoutmaster of the Unionville Scouts	LARRY						
MIKE _	Troop Leaders	MARTIN						
WALTER }	1100p 1100m	FRED > - South End Boys						
WILL		JOHN						
GEORGE		NELSON)						
HARRY > -	North End Boys	A SOLDIER						
STEVE		A SAILOR						
LINN		THE GODDESS OF LIBERTY						
		UNCLE SAM						

CHORUS

Other North End Boys. Other South End Boys. Boys of the Unionville Boy Scout Company of which Jim is Scoutmaster.

For Tableau: Soldiers and Sailors.

SCENE

An open common or meadow in the neighborhood of Unionville, a large industrial town.

INCIDENTAL MUSIC

						A	\mathbf{C}^{\dagger}	T	Ι										
Nº								_	_					,	,]	Page
1. Overture																	Inst	rumental	3
2. North End														Wi	11,	George	an	d Chorus	7
3. South End													.L	arr	y,	Martin	an	d Chorus	7
4. America First.										~•								Chorus	13
5. The Scout Law.									٠.		•							Chorus	20
•																			
ACT II																			
6. Introduction																	Inet	rumantal	95
7. Id Like To Say																			
8. The Old Colonial																			
9. March																			
10. Indian War Danc																			
11. Ho for the Joy.			•															Chorus	42
12. The Star-Spangle	ed Ba	anne	r.							Mi	ike,	T	om,	Wi	11,	Larry	and	d Chorus	44
13. My Country, 'Tis	of T	hee .							•									Chorus	50
14. America First.							•	•								Gener	al I	Ensemble	52

^{*} It is suggested that an actual Scoutmaster fill this rôle wherever possible, since the boys, accustomed to his leadership and authority, would present the operetta with the best results, especially in the matter of drill.

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AMERICA FIRST

FREDERICK H. MARTENS

WILL C. MACFARLANE

ACT I

Nº 1. Overture









Orchestral parts may be obtained from the publishers

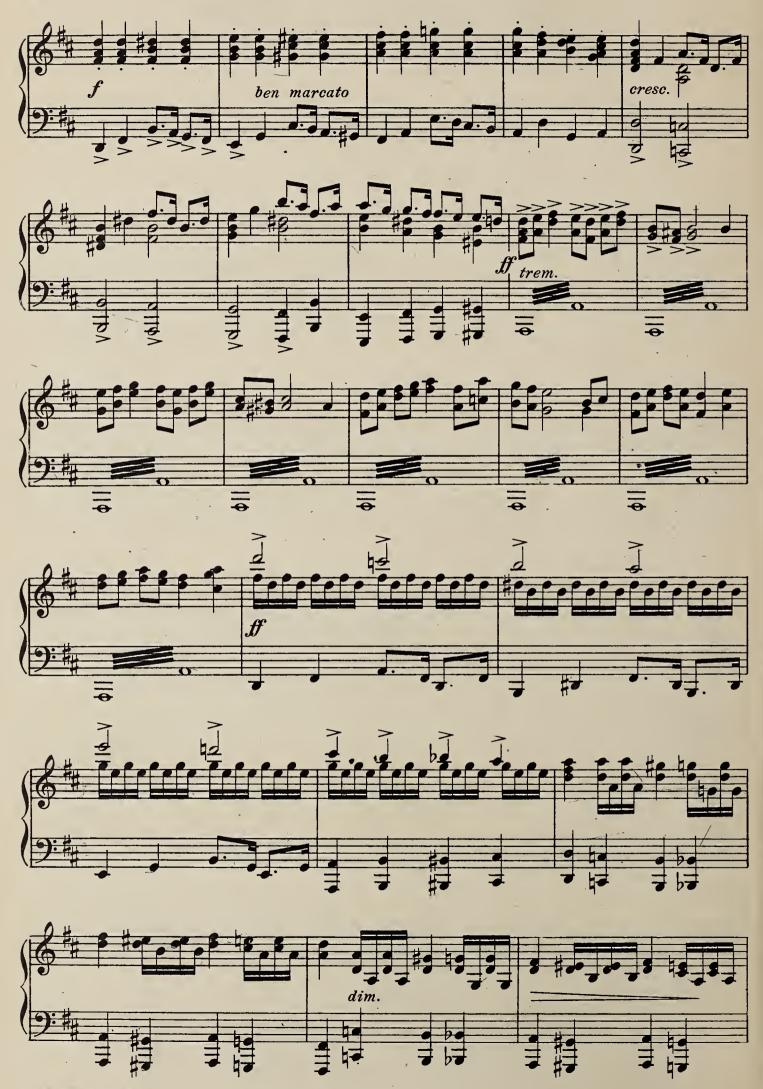
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J.F. & B. 4360-55

(For further particulars see remark on second page of cover.)



J.F.&B. 4360-55





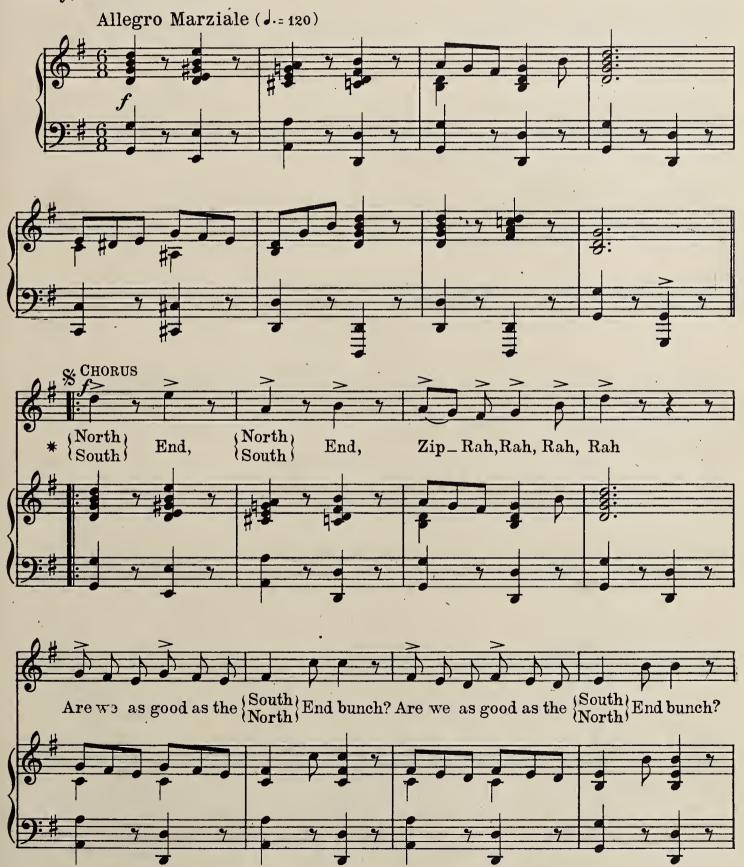
The curtain rises on an open ground or common in the neighborhood of Unionville, a large industrial town. Bushes and trees at L. and R.W. From L.W. march in North End boys in a disorderly crowd, Will, George, Harry, Steve and Linn in lead, some keeping step, some not.

Nº 2. North End

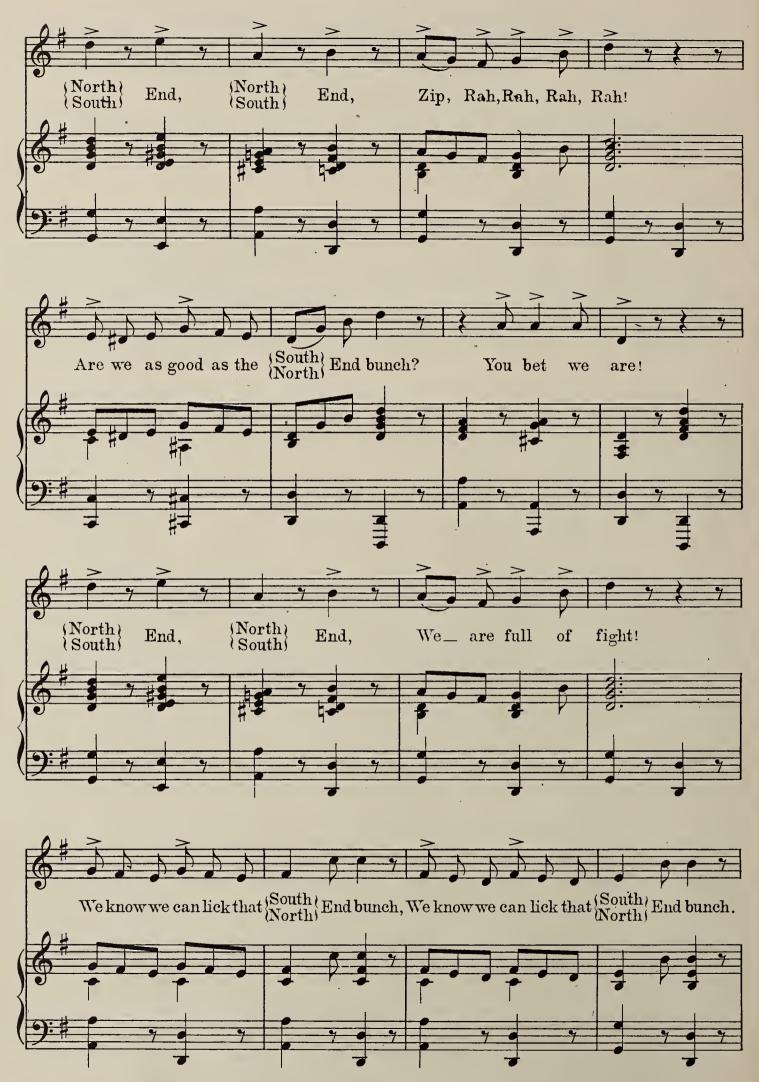
Will, George and Chorus

Nº 3. South End

Larry, Martin and Chorus



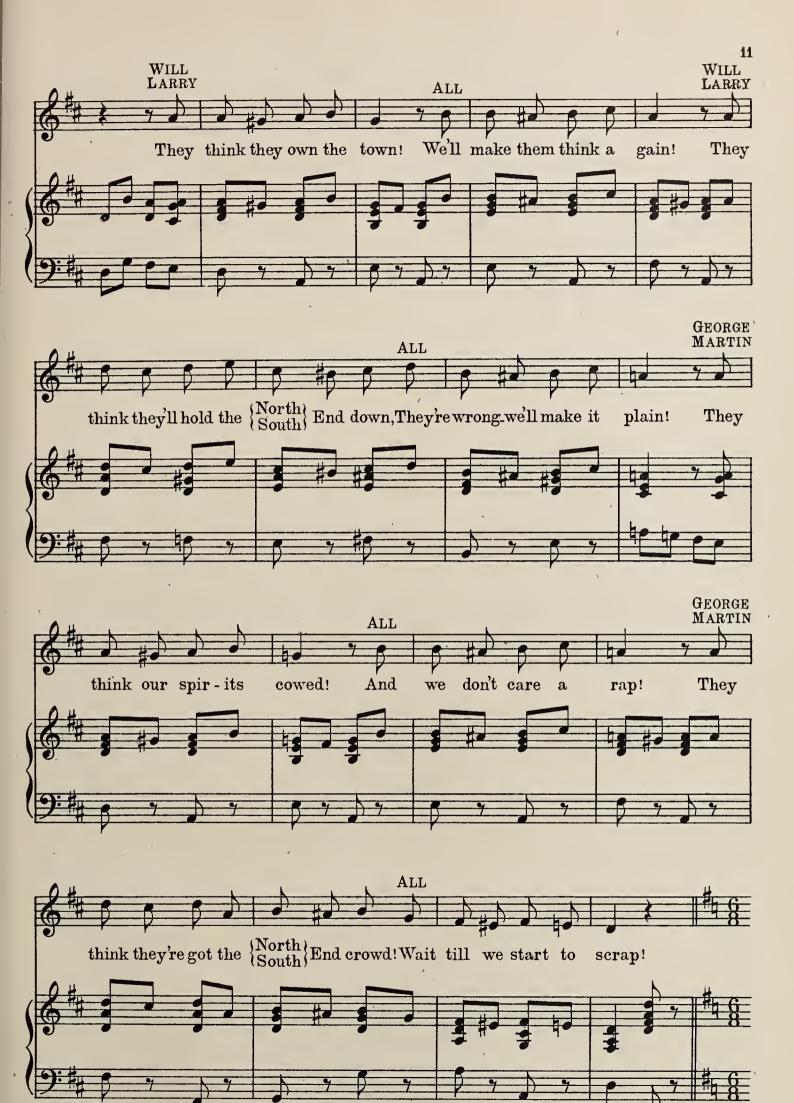
* When sung for the last time in N? 3, North End and South End should join. J.F.&B. 4360-55



J. F.& B. 4360-55







D. S. al Fine.

WILL- That South End bunch needs a good trimming, and we ought to be able to give it to them.

STEVE- Just because they live in the South End, they think they can run this town!

GEORGE- Well, they can't put over anything like that on us (to boys,) can they?

ALL (loudly)- No! No!

GEORGE (boastfully) - Let me tell you fellows I've got an uppercut that is an uppercut! Some of those South End fellows are going to feel it today!

HARRY (challengingly) - Anyone would think that you were the only fellow in the crowd who knows how to use his fists!

WILL- Yes, don't talk so much about your uppercut- use it, use it!

GEORGE (sulkily, with a glance at Harry)- I'll use it on some of you fellows who like to start things if you don't look out!

HARRY- Do you mean me?

GEORGE - Never mind who I mean....

(Both assume threatening attitudes - the other boys crowd about them. But the dispute is forgotten as Linn runs in from L.W. and up to Will.)

LINN- The South Enders have started-they're on the way here!

WILL- Everybody in the bushes! We'll hide and jump out when the right time comes!

(All conceal themselves in shrubbery; L.W. From distance sound of marching feet, which draws nearer. The South Enders march on from R.W., in the same manner as did the North End boys, singing as they enter.)

(Chorus No.3, same as No.2, substituting "South End" for "North End," and "Larry" and "Martin" for "Will" and "George" at places indicated. At the end of the fourth verse the North End boys step out from their hiding-places and front the others. Both North Enders and South Enders glare at each other, and assume challenging attitudes. Will and Larry step forward and fists clenched, regard each other contemptuously.)

WILL- What do you fellows want here anyway? We picked out this place to have some fun in, and we won't have any bunch of ole South Enders coming here to interfere with us!

LARRY- Aw, who's interfering with you? We've got just as much right to be here as you have. Do you fellows own this ground? Why don't you stay up at the North End where you belong?

WILL- Say, listen to me, you come here looking for trouble.....

GEORGE- And you're going to get it!

HARRY (derisively)- Yah, look at them! Ole South Enders! Ole South Enders!

ALL THE NORTH END BOYS (same, pointing with fingers in a kind of chant)-

Ole South Enders! Ole South Enders!
Ole South Enders! Ole South Enders!

LARRY (with contempt) - That's right! Keep on singing! That's all any ole North Enders can do, anyway!

MARTIN- Yes, all you can do is sing, ole North Enders! Yah!

ALL THE SOUTH END. BOYS (chanting derisively)-

Ole North Enders! Ole North Enders!

All they can do is sing! Yah! (With great contempt.)

GEORGE (stepping forward)- I double-dare any ole South Ender to touch me!

FRED (coming forward) - And I double-dare any ole North Ender to touch me!

GEORGE (thrusting out his shoulder)- Touch me first, touch me first- I treble-double dare you to!

FRED- Aw, who's afraid of you! (Touches him,)

(They clinch and both sides move on each other for battle, Will and Larry engage, there is sparring all along the line. Suddenly as the contest becomes general the clear notes of the Scouts call:



are heard off-stage, yet near at hand. The startled combatants break away from each other and listen. Again the call sounds and, L.W., led by Jim, Mike and Walter, troops of the Union-ville Boy Scouts march in, with military order and precision. The North End and South End boys draw back to either side as the Boy Scouts march down stage, separating the contestant groups. As they march they sing.)

Nº 4. America First

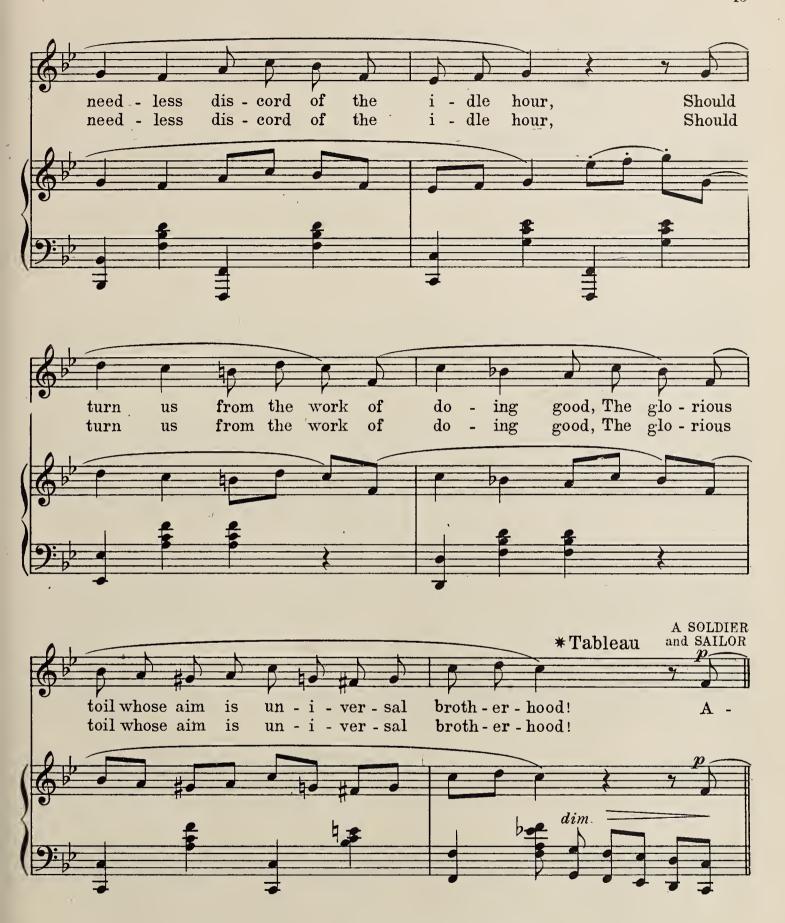
Boy Scout Chorus

Soldiers, Sailors and Chorus

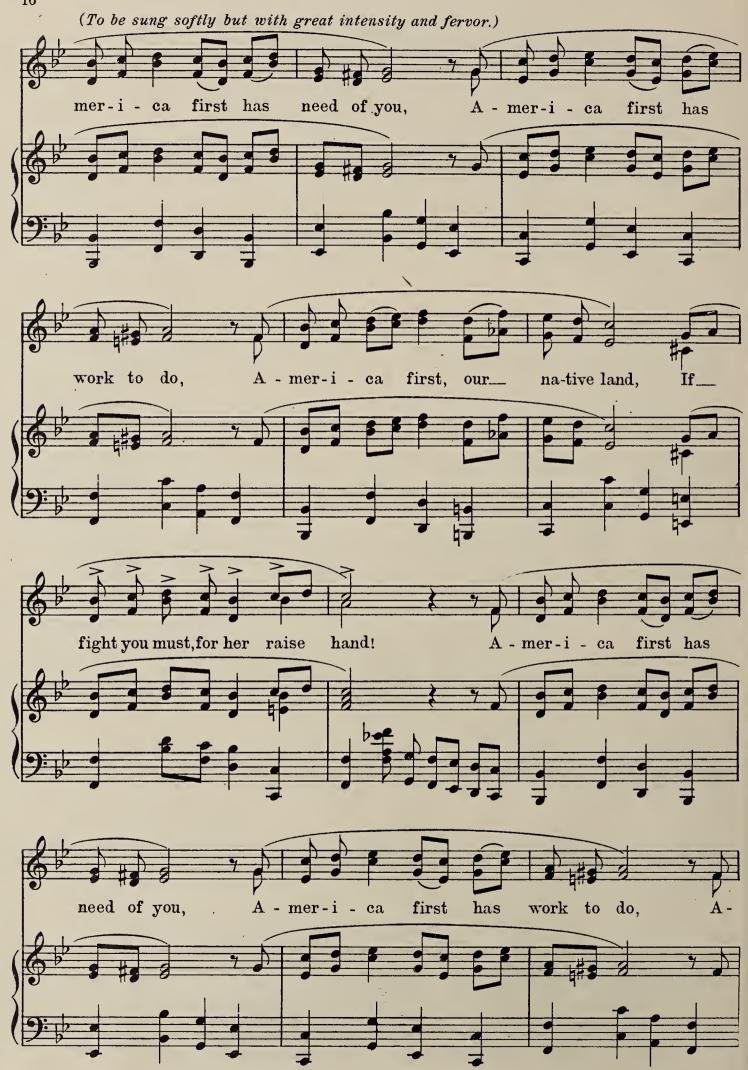




J. F. & B. 4360-55



* After first verse has been sung, the Scouts, lined across the stage break rank in centre and back down stage. Curtains at the back are parted, revealing a sailor and a soldier supporting a large American flag, who sing as indicated. As soon as the scouts take up the refrain the curtains are closed, concealing sailor and soldier. After the second verse has been sung (during which the scouts march, line up, and back down stage as in the first verse,) the parting of the curtains reveals a small squad of sailors and soldiers who sing the first part of the refrain "America First." Curtains are closed when scouts begin to sing.





J.F.&B. 4360-55



SCOUTS- Zing-a-zing! Boom! Boom!

(On the "Bom! Bom!" every Boy Scout brings his staff down on the ground with a ring and stands at attention. Jim beckons forward Will and Larry, the leaders of the fray. They approach, while their followers cluster together whispering, and examining each other and the Boy Scouts.)

JIM - Now, what is it all about, you fellows?

WILL (beginning slowly, then as his excitement grows, ending with a perfect rush of words)—
Well, its this way! We fellows from the North End are sick and tired of the way
those South Enders are trying to come in over us! (Very rapidly.) Yes, we're sick
an' tired of it, an' we're not a-goin' to stand for it any more!

LARRY- We'll, I like that! I like that! Say, Captain, it's just as he says only the other way round. Those North Enders keep pestering us, and picking on us and irritating us (in haste, same as Will) an' we've had just as much of it as we're goin' to stand! Yes, sir, we've had just about as much of it as we're goin' to stand!

WILL (beligerently) - Aw, for two cents.....

LARRY (same) - Aw, for two cents.....

WILL - Say, you, you, you.....

LARRY - Who are you calling "You, you, you?"

WILL - I'm calling you, you ole South Ender!

LARRY (drawing up to Will threateningly)— What do you mean by calling me an ole South Ender you, you ole North Ender you?

WILL - I'll call you anything I want.....

LARRY - No you wont.

WILL - Yes, I will. I'll call you anything I want to call you, you, you.....

NORTH END BOYS (chanting) - Ole South Ender! Ole South Ender!

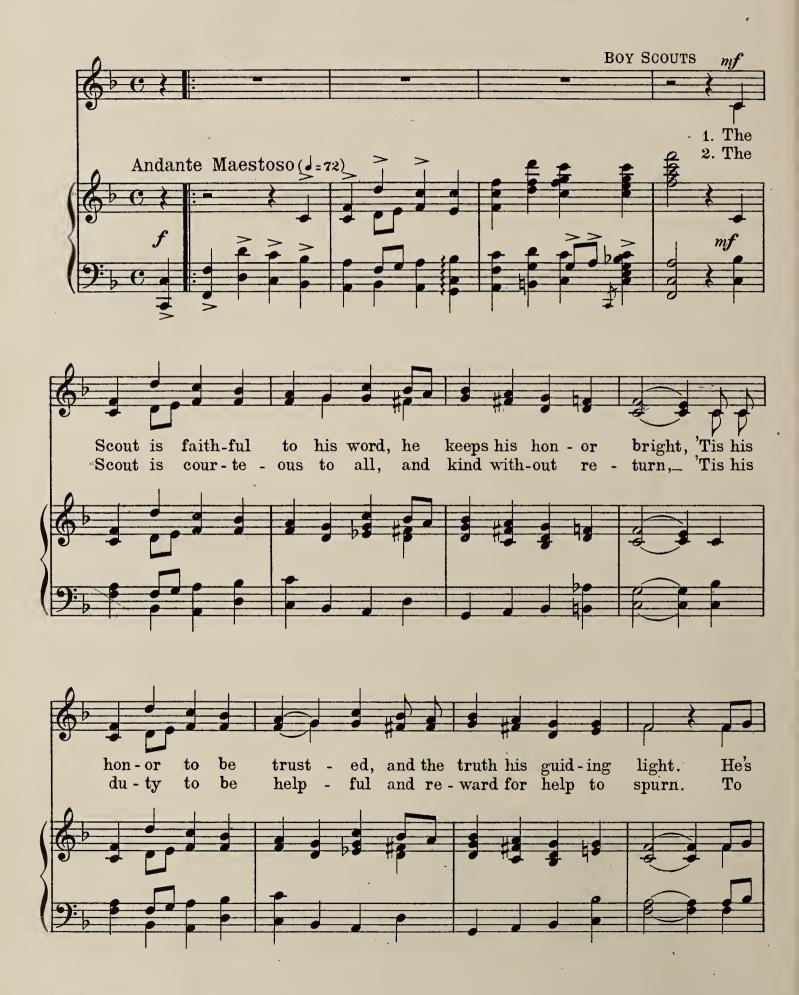
SOUTH END BOYS (same) - Ole North Ender! Ole North Ender!

(Will and Larry start to rush one upon another, but Jim holds them back, his hand on the arm of each.)

JIM - See here! We're not getting anywhere! All this row of yours doesn't seem to have any real foundation. If you don't know what to do with yourselves and have to take to scrapping to keep from falling asleep, I pity you! There are so many more interesting things to do. Look at the Scouts! They have enough to keep them busy. (Turning to Scouts) How about it, boys? Give them an idea of the "Scout Law!"

Nº 5. The Scout Law

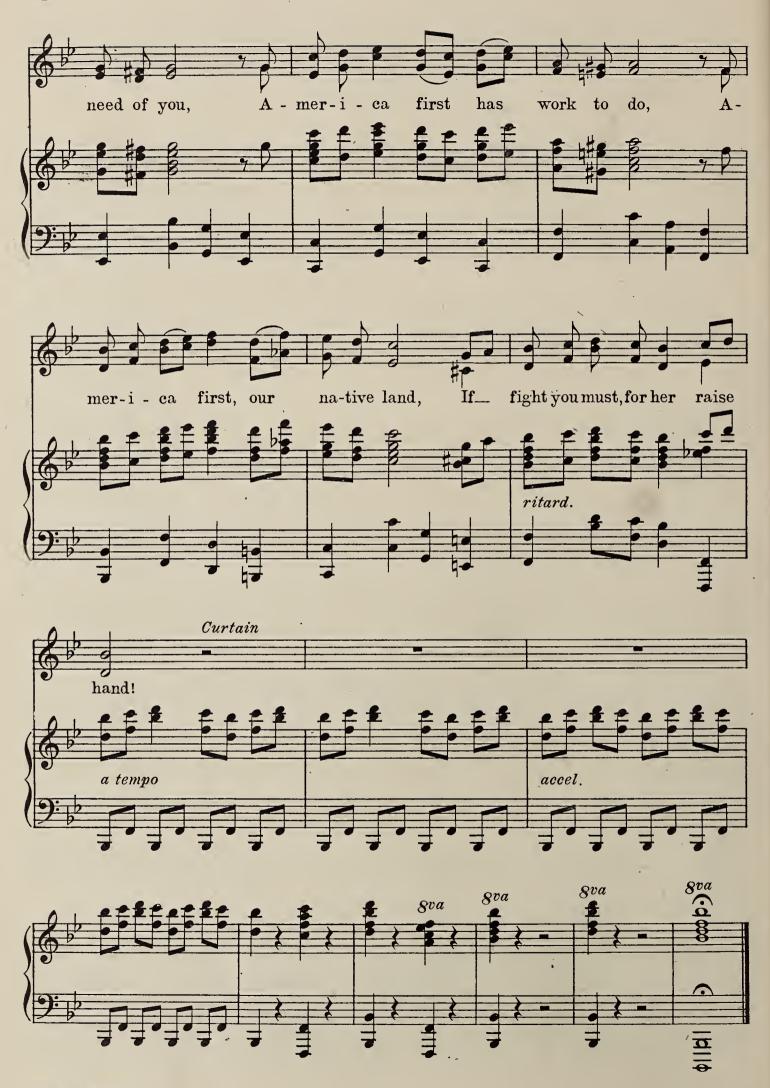
Chorus





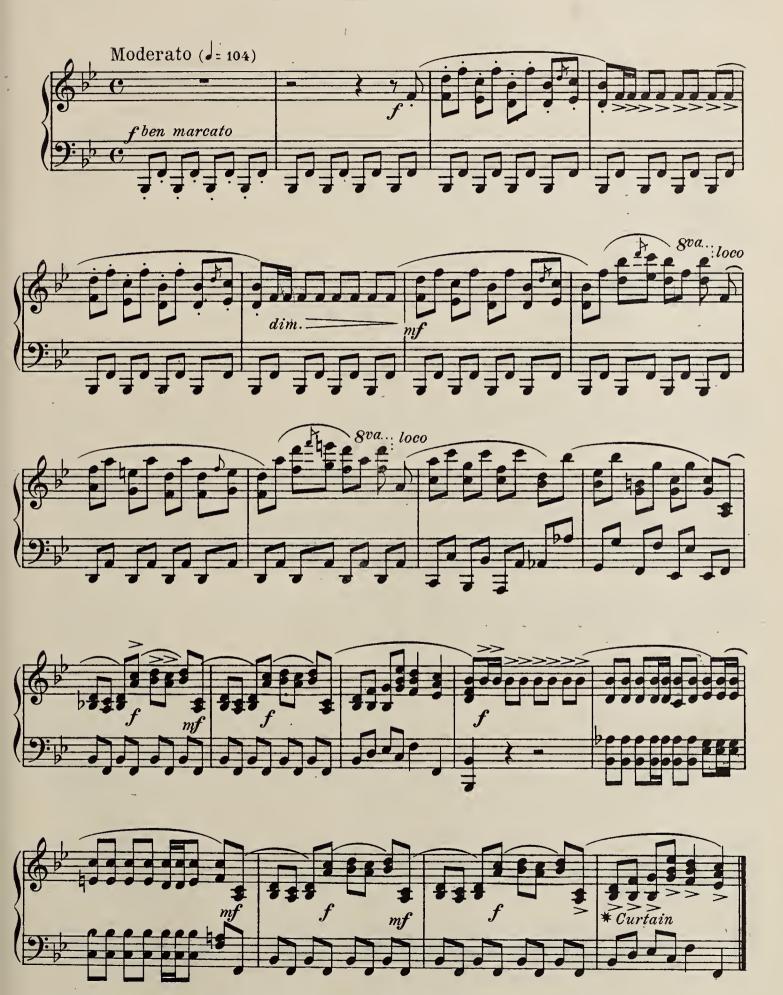






ACT II

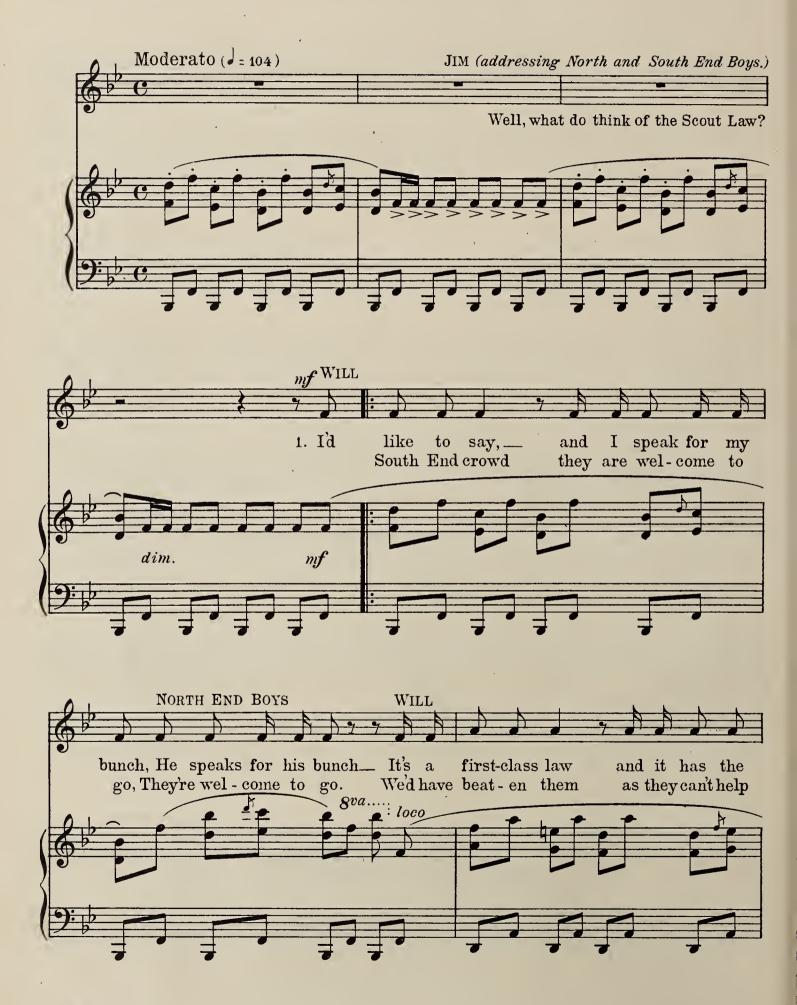
Nº 6. Introduction



^{* (}Same scene, boys still hold positions they held when curtain dropped.)

Nº 7. I'd Like To Say

Will and Chorus





J.F.&B. 4360-55



JIM (turning to Larry) - And how about you and your friends?

We got along without Scouts so far, and I guess we can keep on getting along without them! And I wouldn't join anything those ole North Enders belong to anyhow! (Turning to his comrades) You don't want to join any ole North End Crowd, do you boys?

SOUTH ENDERS (all) - No, no!

LARRY (encouraged) - And we're going to lick those ole North Enders right now! You've got no right to stop us, either- (retreating a safe distance) Ole Boy Scouts! Ole North End Boy Scouts!

(Jim whistles twice, and before the other boys realize what has been done, the South Enders are surrounded, and each one of their number finds himself in the custody of two Scouts. Several patrols have been detailed to account for them, the others remain drawn up in rank.)

JIM (to Larry, who is led up to him) - Well, what have you to say now?

LARRY (embarassed) - I didn't mean any harm! But (stubbornly) I won't join the Scouts!

JIM- Well, you don't seem to know any better so I'll excuse you. But you'll have to show a different spirit before you get even a chance to enter our organization, you or any of your friends! (To Scouts who are guarding them) Let them go! (Larry, released, together with his comrades retires to one side, where they watch proceedings.)

(To Will and North End boys) We Scouts have nothing against fighting—when there's a reason! It's fighting for nothing at all that we object to! When you join us you'll have plenty of fighting to do-fighting yourselves, fighting for others and, if necessary fighting others in one way or another if they do not do the right thing. Mike, there, (pointing to him) used to be one of these scrap for the scrap scrappers. Now he's reformed. Give him the right fighting idea, Mike.

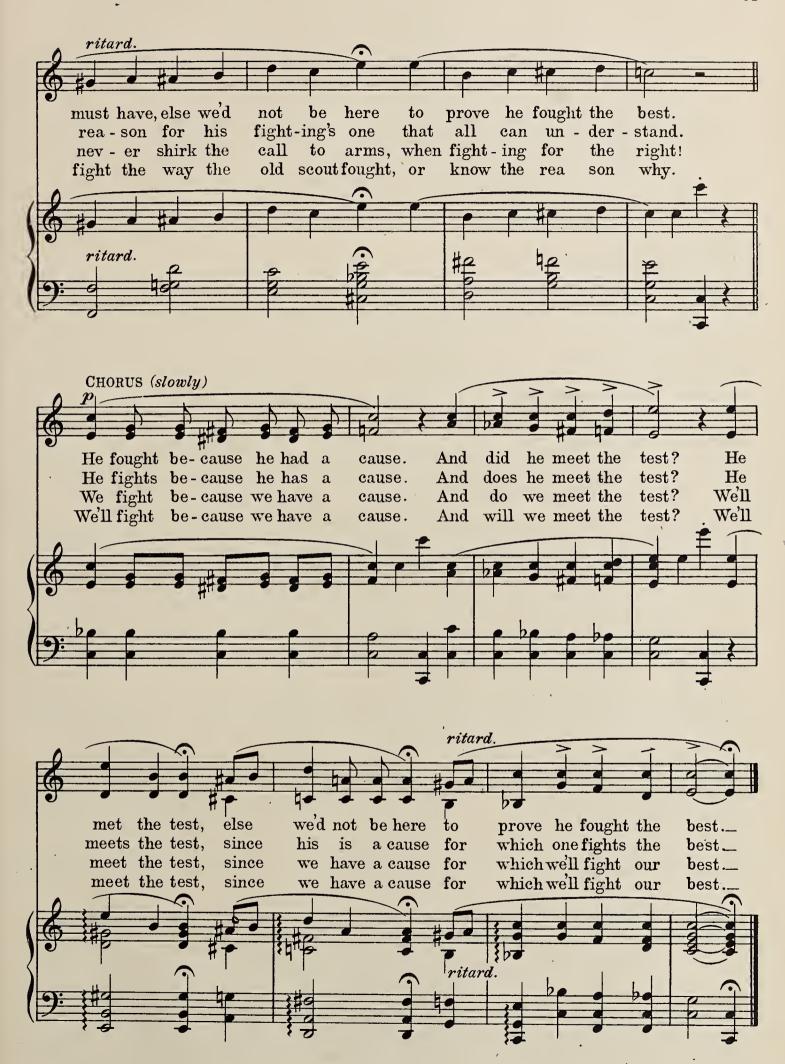
MIKE (steps forward grinning) - We figure it out the way the old Colonial frontiersman did!

Nº 8. The Old Colonial Frontiersman

Mike and Chorus







WILL (to Jim) - That idea suits us right down to the ground. And can we come right in and join the Boy Scouts now? (Without waiting for an answer, to his comrades) Come on, fellows!

JIM - Hold on there! It's not as simple as all that! You have to pass the tests first?

And even then you have to come in as a tenderfoot!

HARRY- What are the tests?

JIM (to Mike) - Give him the tests.

MIKE- Anyone who wants to join the Boy Scouts must know their laws, signs and salute; he must know the history of our flag- the glorious Stars and Stripes- and he must be able to tie four standard knots!

GEORGE- I can tie the knots.

STEVE- So can I!

FRED (excitedly, speaking from the South End corner) - So can I!

LINN (sorrowfully) - But none of us know the rest of it!

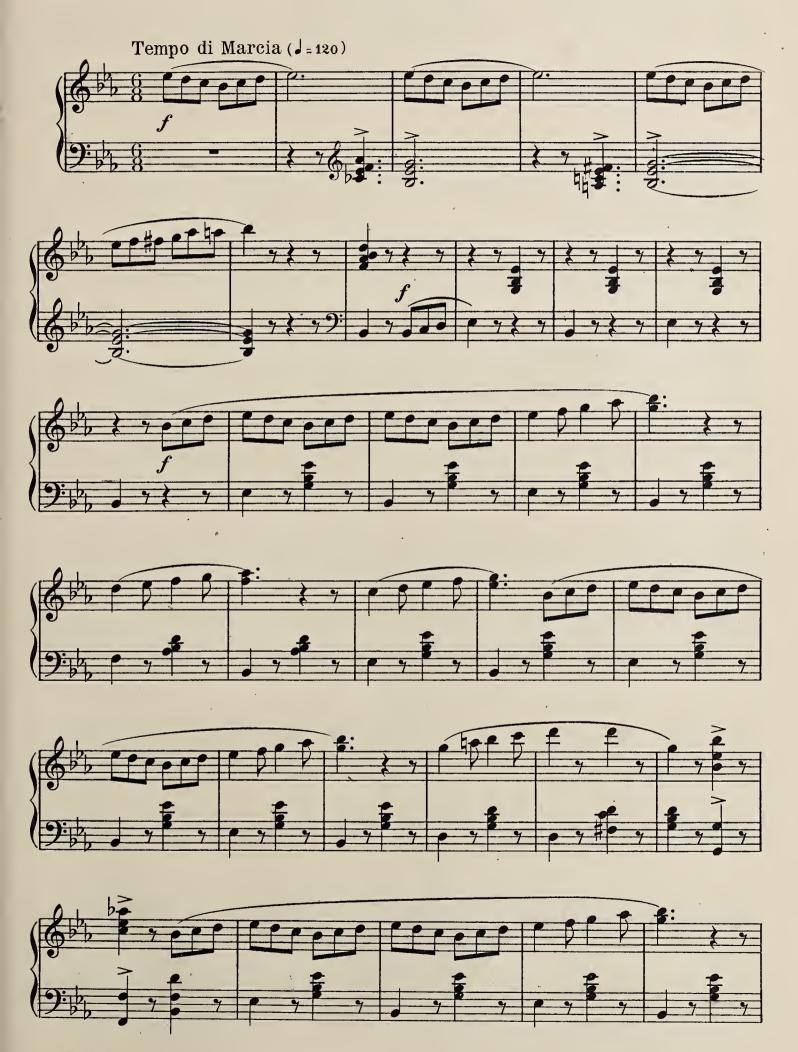
Well, perhaps you can learn! It's a little irregular, but I'll detail one Scout to each four of you fellows, and if you learn the salute, secret sign and laws-I'm sure most of you can give the history of the Stars and Stripes- by the time the rest of us are through with our {Drill War Dance} I'll let you take the oath!

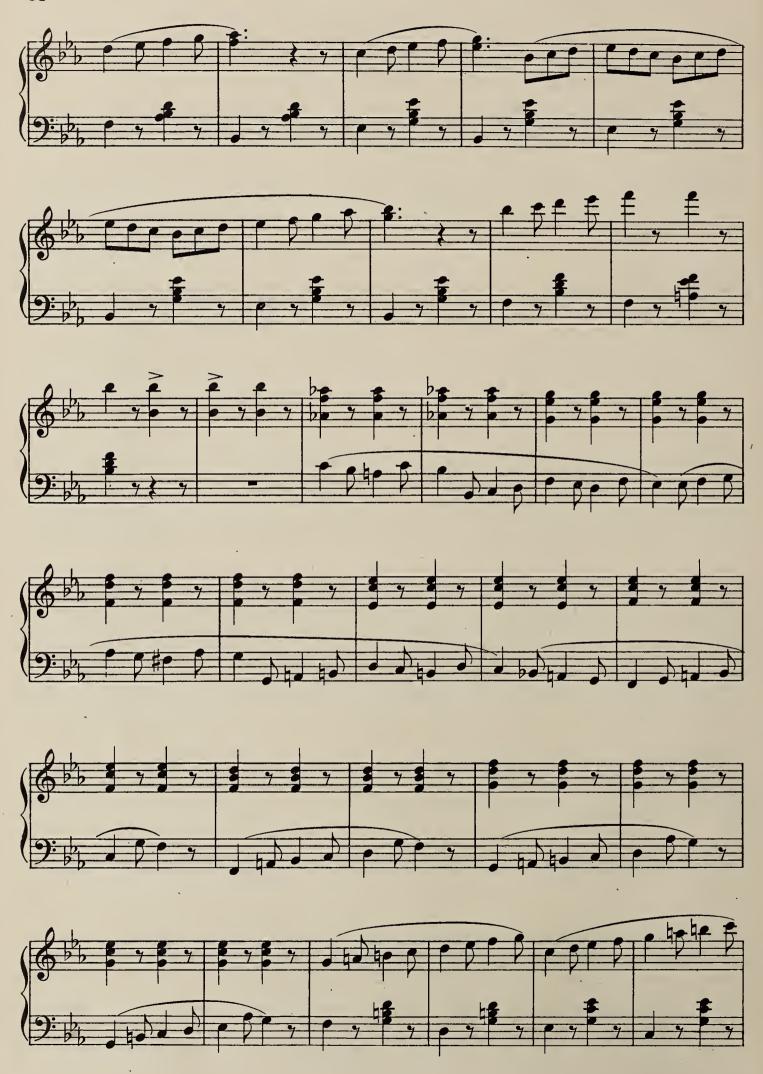
(Rapidly glancing over the stage, Jim takes count of the boys present to be instructed and motions six or eight [the number required,] who leave the ranks and begin to teach the would-be recruits. The remainder of the Scouts, under the command of Jim and his Patrol Leaders, now begin their Drill [War Dance] If the military drill is used it may include "Stretcher" and "Semaphore Signal" Drills.* If a "War Dance" is preferred, the "War Dance" [see "Boy Scouts of America," 9th edition] may be recommended. This "War Dance" permits of the introduction of a number of Camp-fire Girls on the stage if desired, whose participation may be moved by Jim's calling out.)

JIM- There are some Camp-fire Girls over yonder. Walter, wig-wag them and ask if they will take part in our "War Dance!" (Business of wig-wagging towards Wings followed by appearance of girls, who withdraw immediately dance is concluded.)

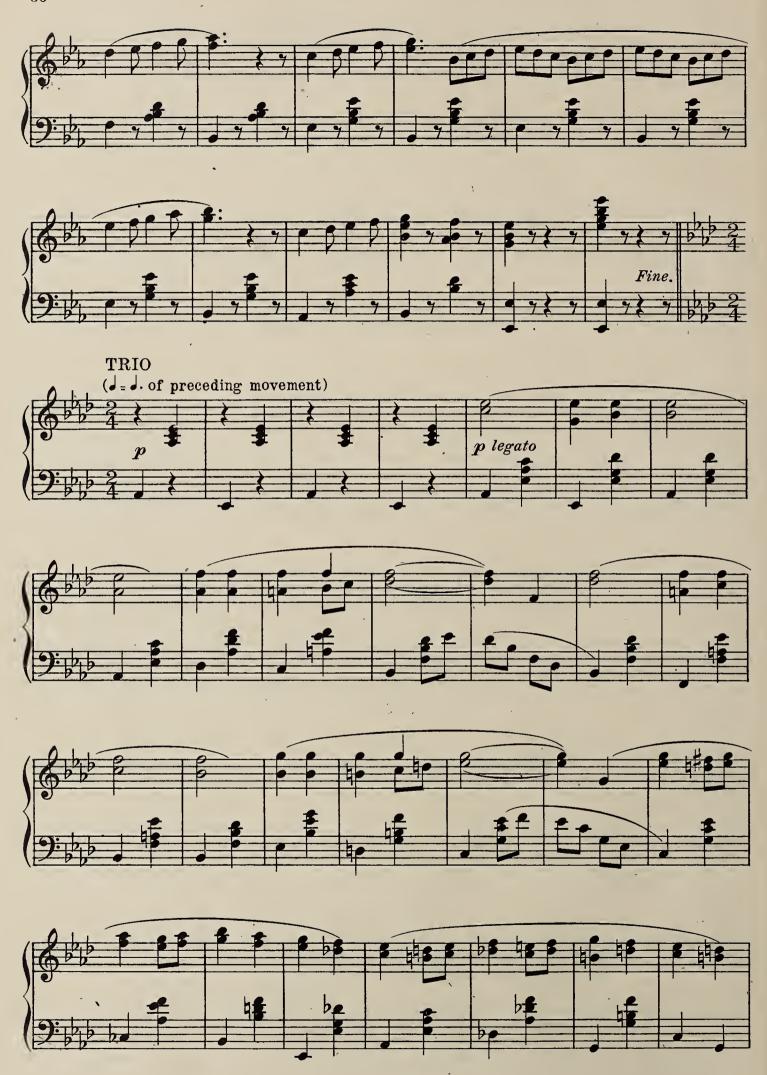
^{* (}Naval, Aeroplane and other drills may be introduced here if desired. Incidentally, it is strongly recommended that both "Drills" and "War Dance" be performed. Details of the "Drills" may be left to the discretion of Scoutmasters; full directions for the "War Dance" will be found in Ernest Seton Thompson's "Boy Scouts of America" p.156, (1910), Doubleday Page & Co.)

Nº 9. March

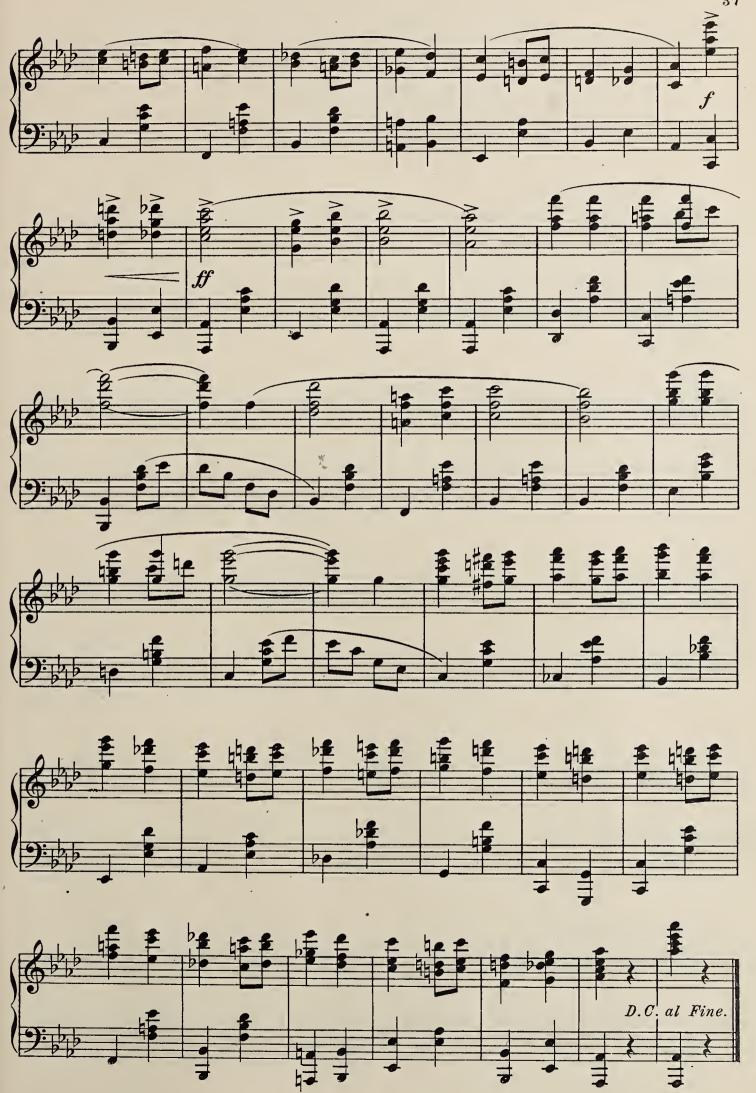












Nº 10. Indian War Dance

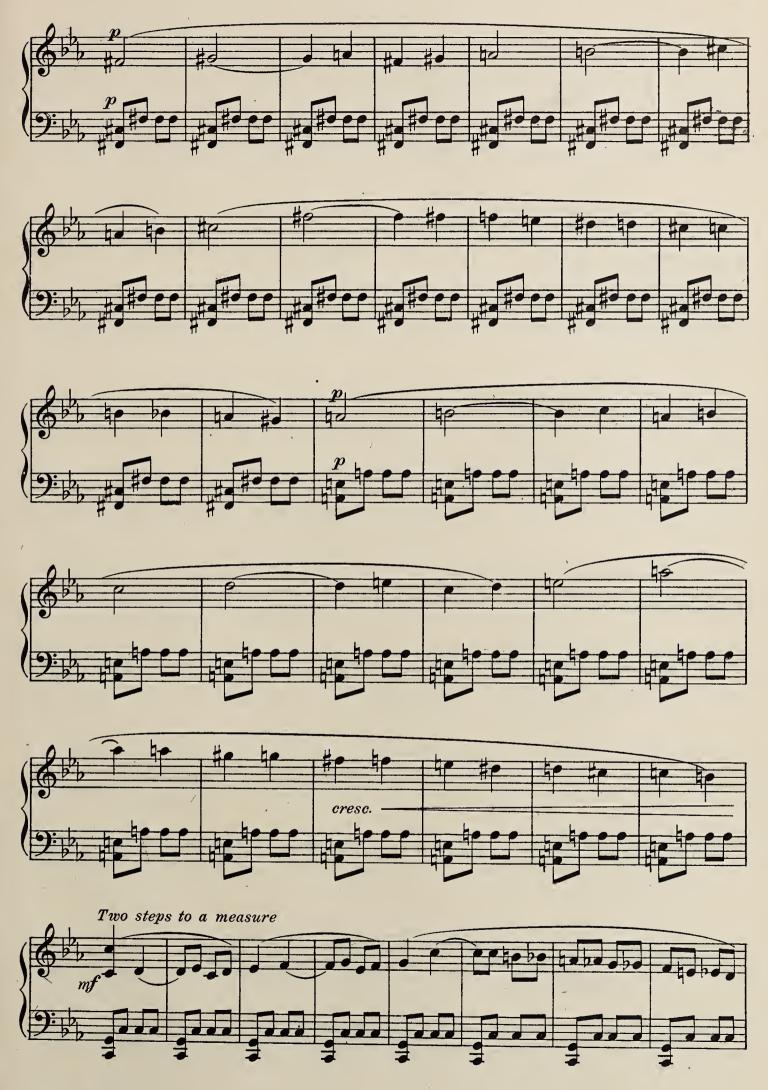
Camp-Fire Girls

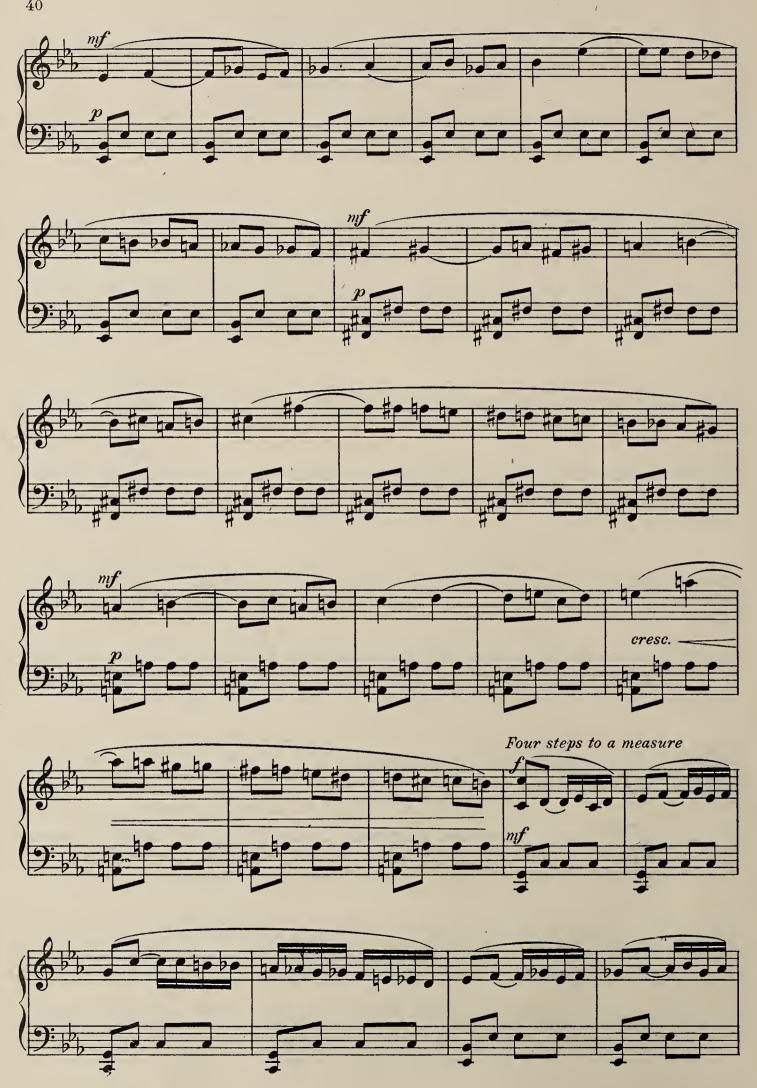
"First he danced a solemn measure, Very slow in step and gesture,

Then more swiftly and still swifter Whirling, spinning round in circles."

Longfellow









* At this point and to the end of the number boys beat dish-covers and add as much as possible to the din J. F.& B. 4360-55

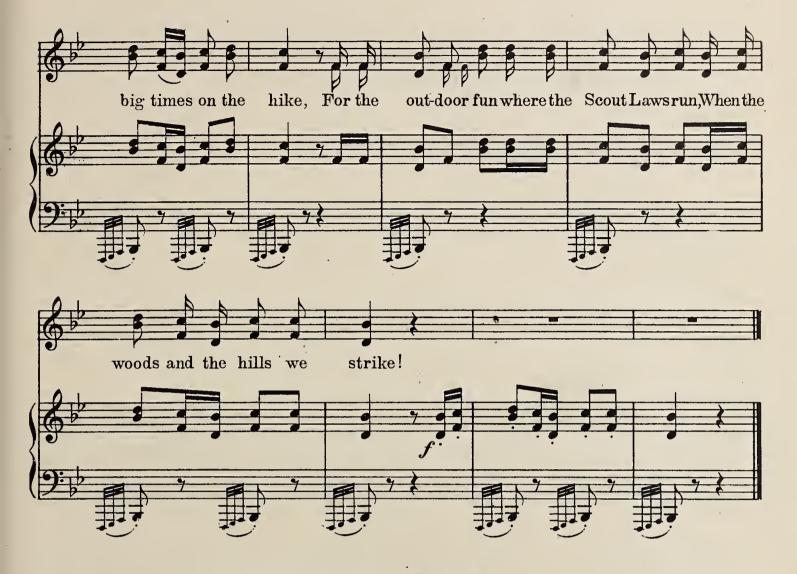
(While the Drill or War-Dance is going on the South End boys, including Larry, have gradually crept up to the Boy Scout instructors and are amicably listening to their murmured instructions in company with their late enemies. The teachers examining them rapidly, conclude, with the exception of a few boys, that they have met all the requirements. The teachers line up in two detachments. John and Nelson, South End boys whose allegiance to Larry is weakening owing to their interest in the Scouts, shyly offer themselves as subjects and are accepted, despite the efforts [dumb show] of Larry to hold them back. As the Drill or War Dance concludes, the Scouts march down-stage in military order, while on either side the "Tenderfeet" march up-stage in close column, and fall in behind the Scout Patrols- the Scout instructors then fall into rank in the last line of their own organization, leaving the North End and South End boys under leadership of Will and Larry respectively. As the boys begin to march they sing.)

* No 11. Ho for the Joy

Chorus



* This number is adaptable as a marching song when the Boy Scouts are actually on the march.



- 2. Ho for the kit and the duffle-bag,
 Of their weight we will not tire,
 Hail the open night when the stars shine bright
 As we sing by the first camp-fire!
- 3. Ho for the times that we'll all enjoy,
 For the big times on the hike
 When we're free to know all that nature'll show,
 And her gifts we share alike!
- 4. Ho for the games that the camp-fire knows
 For the "Chipmunk Hunt" let's say,
 For the "Push O'War," the "Corral" or more,
 Like the "Round-Up Hat" relay!
- 5. Ho for the games that the camp-fire knows "Treasure Hunt" and "Lost-Patrol"

 For the old "Crab Race" and for "Pris'ners Base"

 For the "Swatter" and "Flag Race" goal!
- 6. Ho for the games that the camp-fire knows "The Spider and the Fly"
 Ho for "Follow-my-leader," or "Mumbly-Peg"
 Or for "Throwing the Assegai."

(The whole company is aligned, marking time with its feet and Jim administers the oath to the new recruits, which they repeat collectively, giving the salute.)

JIM- We'll, this has been a good day for recruits, and for the Boy Scouts of Unionville.

MIKE- Yes, they look like a likely lot of "Tenderfeet!"

WALTER- Some of you fellows couldn't pass though!

Well, they need not be discouraged. Let them try again! (A cheer from the rejected, who have been standing on one side in a dejected attitude.) And now before we march off with these "rookies," we'll pay our respects to the flag! (At his command the Scouts and the "Tenderfeet" fall back a few paces. The standard bearer of the Boy Scouts comes forward with the Stars and Stripes. Behind him, a section of boys form, each provided with two small American flags, and go through the "Flag Drill" [signal alphabet] while all sing.)

Nº 12. The Star-Spangled Banner

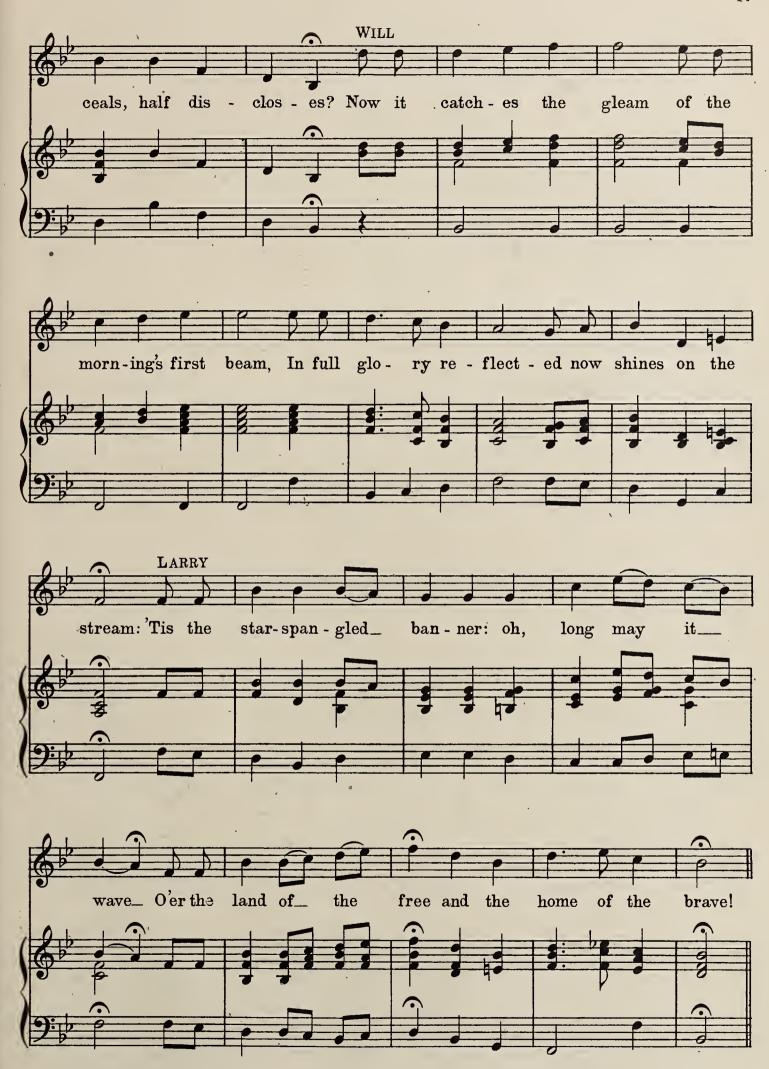
Mike, Tom, Will, Larry and Chorus





J.F.&B. 4360 - 55







J.F.&B. 4360-55



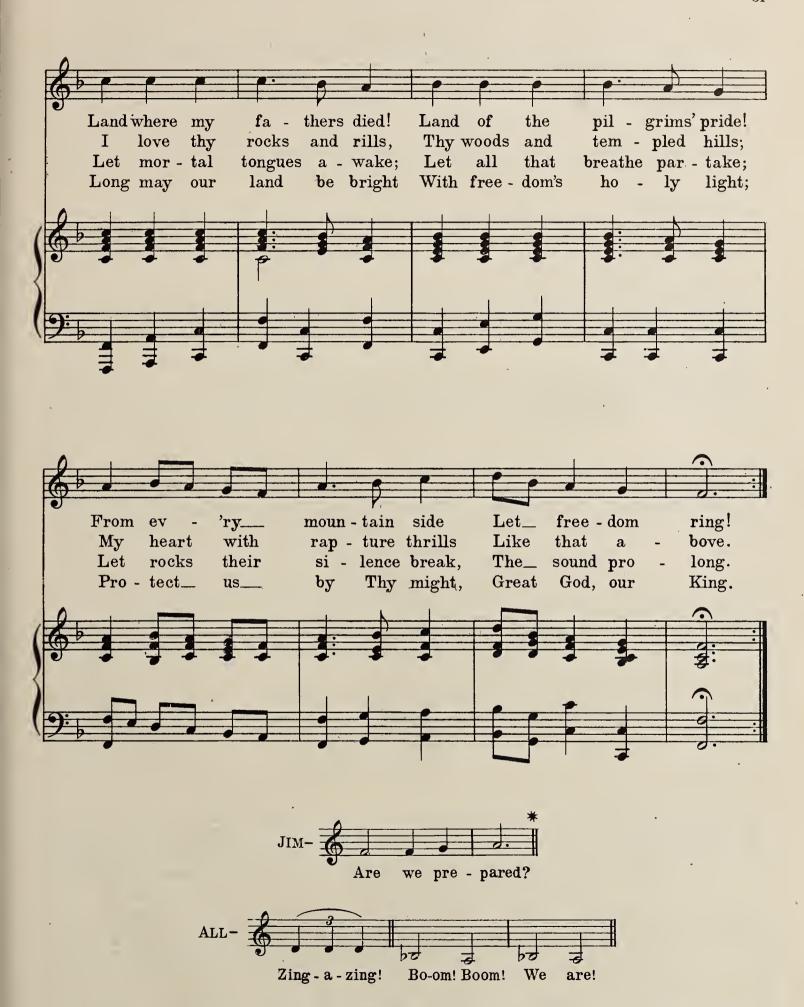
J. F. & B. 4360-55

- JIM (raising his hand as song concludes) Boys! We've done something real today! Here were a lot of fine fellows with nothing better to do than beat each other up-and for what? for nothing at all. And, instead of letting them go on with their foolishness, we're going to make Scouts of them, and open up a whole new world of fun and satisfaction to them.
- MIKE- They'll learn that there's not a better "bunch" going than the Scouts!
- WALTER- They'll learn that not the "gang" first, or the North End first or the South End first, not even Unionville first is our motto- but America First!
- MIKE- No one part or section of it- the whole United States over which float the Stars and Stripes!
- JIM- They'll learn to do their best for our country- the land for which our fathers fought and died, the land of our pride, the land that shall ever remain free. Come on, boys, all of you- "My County 'Tis of Thee!"

Nº 13. My Country, 'Tis of Thee America



* It is suggested that only the first and last stanzas be sung.



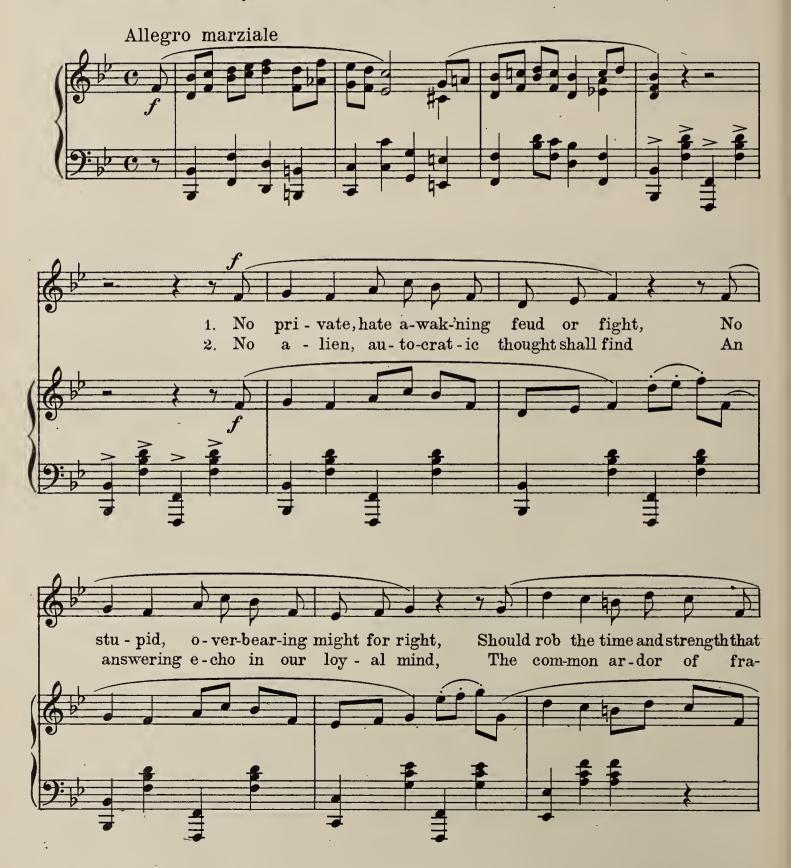
* While these calls are musically more effective, if desired "Jim" may use the whistle signal-one long blast-for "Attention", the boys replying with two short blasts-"All right!"

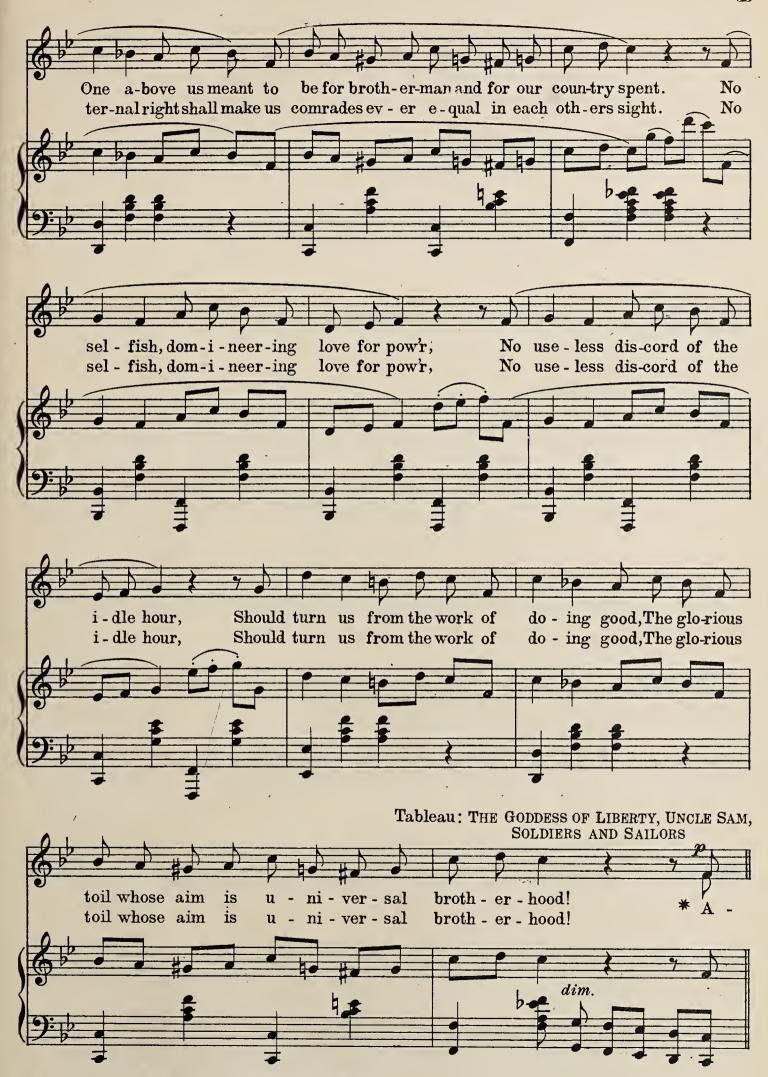
Taking up the song which follows, all the boys begin to march by the flag, giving the salute as they pass. The same evolutions may be gone through with as in No 4, and the Tableau of soldiers and sailors may include, as its central figures, the Goddess of Liberty (Miss Columbia) and Uncle Sam.

Nº 14. America First

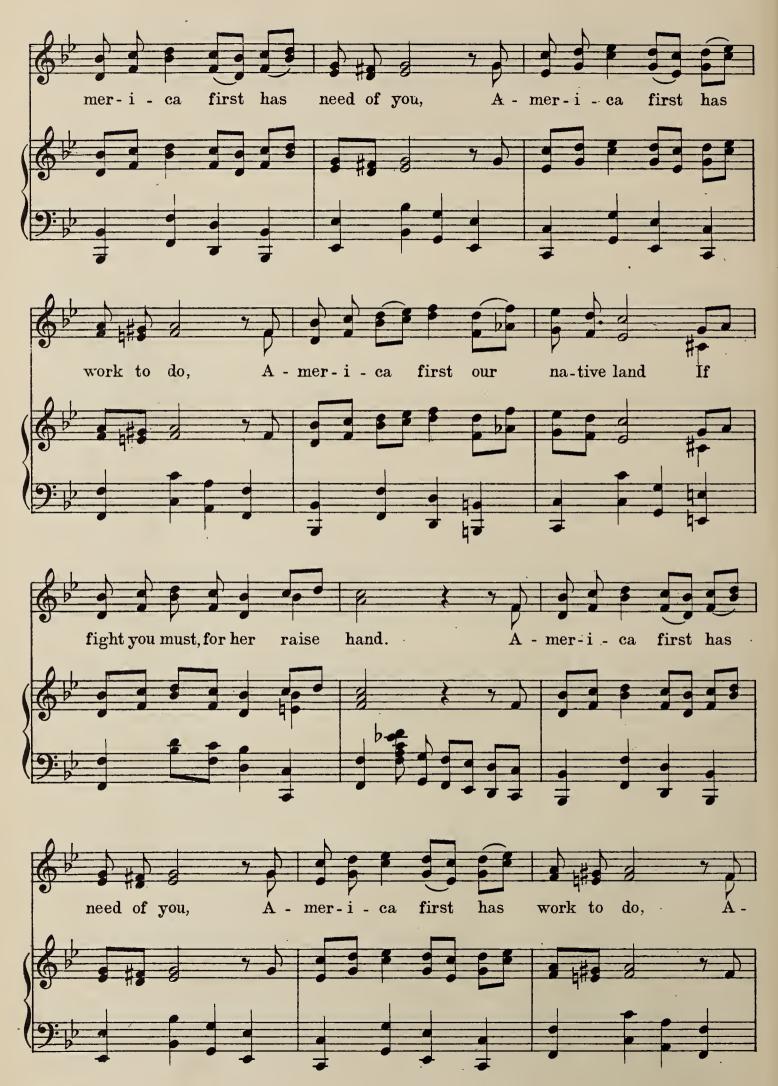
Boy Scout Chorus

The Goddess of Liberty, Uncle Sam and Chorus

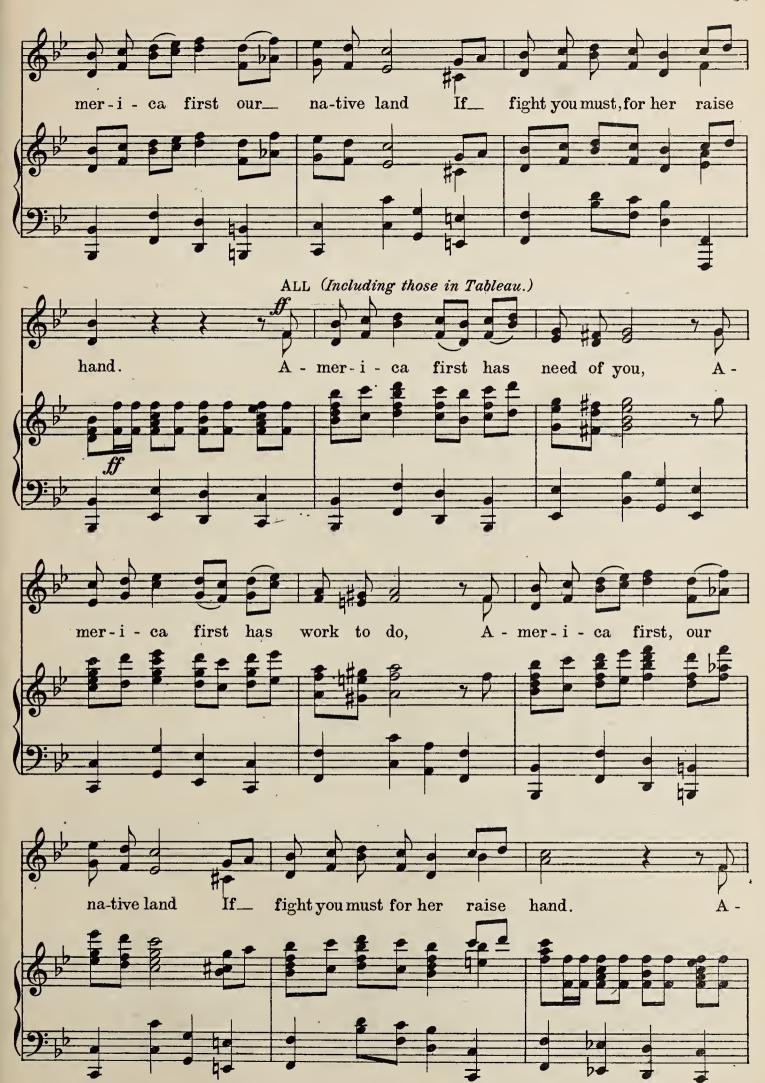




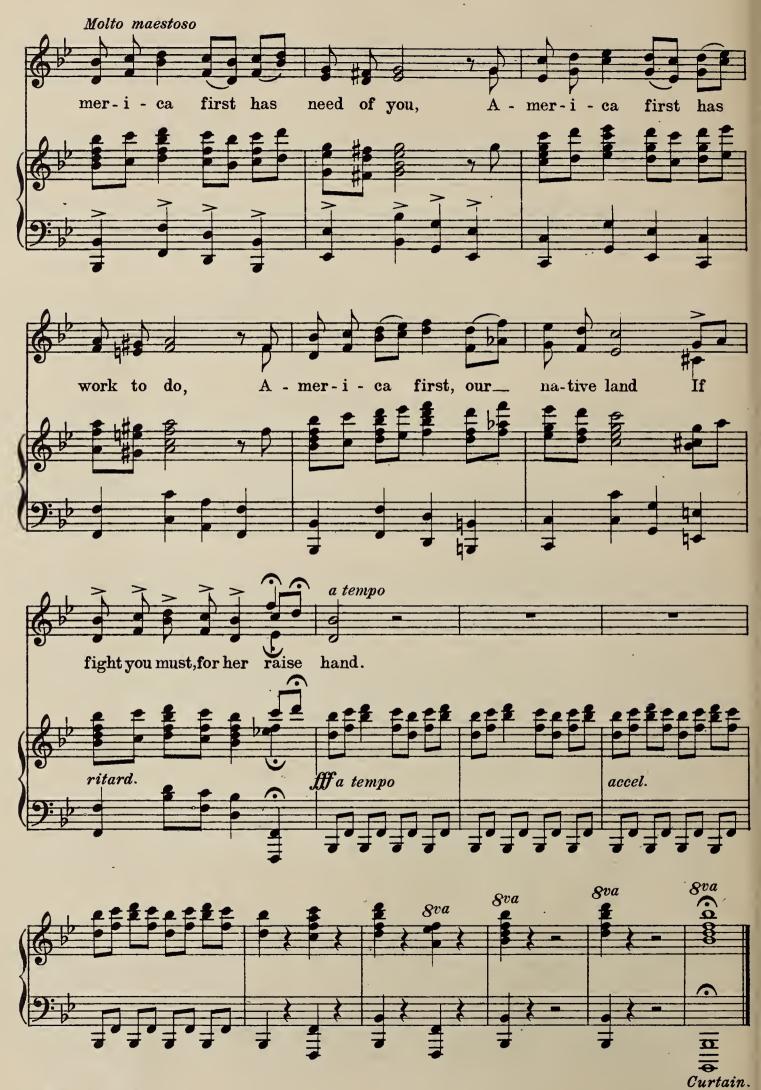
* Softly but with great intensity and fervor.
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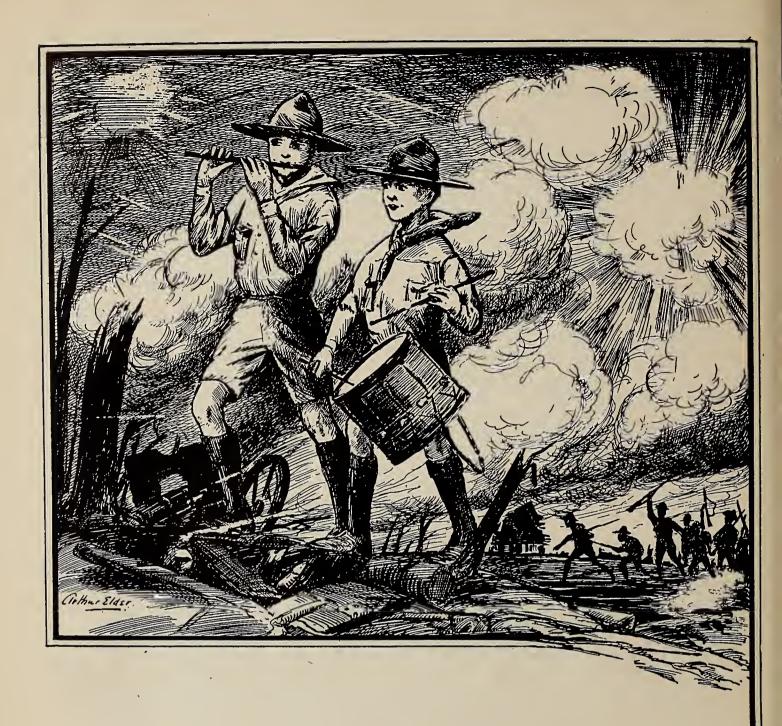


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Battle Hymn of the Republic. RALPH KINDER. JULIA WARD HOWE. Solo or all voices in unison. Mine eyes have seen the glo-ry of the com-ing of the Lord; I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps; With marked rhythm. ff 3. I have read a fier - y gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel;
4. He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; 5. In the beau-ty of the lil-ies Christ was born a-cross the sea, He is trampling out the vin-tage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath They have build-ed Him an al - tar in the even-ing dews and damps; I can have build-ed Him an al - tar in the even-ing dews and damps; I can ye deal with my con-temners, so with you my grace shall deal." Let the is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore His judg-ment seat! O be "As ye deal with my As He His bo-som that trans-fig-ures you and me; glo - ry in Strict time. loos'd the fateful lightning of His ter-ri-ble swift sword, His truth is marching on. read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps, His day is marching on. He - ro, born of woman crush the serpent with His heel, Since God is marching on. swift, my soul, to answer Him! be ju - bi-lant, my feet! Our God is marching on. died to make men ho-ly, let us die to make men free, While God is marching on. CHORUS. Glo-ry Hal-le-lu-jah! Glo - ry! Glo-ry Hal-le-lu-jah! Glo - ry! Glo-ry Hal-le-lu-jah! His truth is marching on. on.

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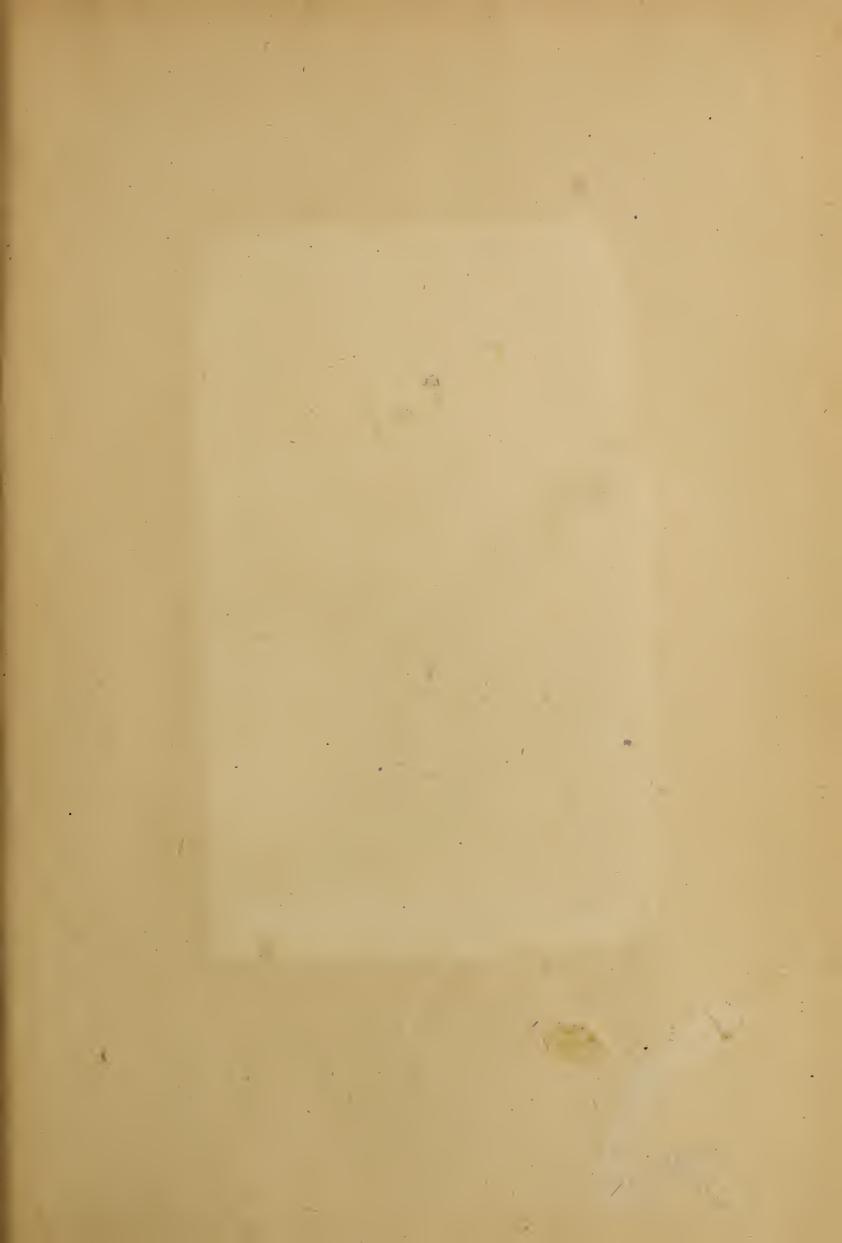
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